



Members of Yukla 27 remembered

A memorial for the crew of Yukla 27 remains at the crash site. Family and squadron members held a memorial for the crew Sept. 21. A six-foot cross has been placed to mark the site.

~ Page 3

PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. KEITH BROWN



WG/CC
pins star

– Page 2



AF Ball
celebrates
heritage

– Page 9



Lest we
forget

– Page 10

First comes termination dust, next comes snow

Commentary by Master Sgt. Susan Andersen
3rd Medical Support Squadron

Termination dust is here. I woke up Saturday morning, grabbed a diet Coke, looked out the kitchen window, and there it was starring me right in the face. “Yep, this dust was sticking.” I thought to myself. Winter is right around the corner.

Hard to believe I’ve lived in Alaska for more than a year now. It seems like yesterday I was listening to people tell me to be careful. If you haven’t heard by now, “Alaska kills.” The moose, with their non-reflecting eyes, know the exact moment to step in front of your car on the Glenn Highway. Mean, hungry bears are in every backyard smelling your cooking from thousands of miles away. Anchorage intersections are sleek, sheets of ice that your tires have no chance of gripping. Every house is a carbon monoxide death trap. And, last but not least, Alaska weather purposely changes from sunny to blizzard-like conditions as soon as you step out your front door. Yes, Alaska can be a dangerous place with nowhere to hide.

Funny though, looking back at other assignments, I’ve noticed a similar undertone. Go near the reef in Guam and chance being sucked into the wide blue ocean never to be seen again. In Okinawa, Japan, the poisonous Habu snake chases and attacks your children in every back yard. California ... well, we all know that state is going to fall into the Pacific Ocean some day. Whatever the assignment, you should heed the advice of the many newcomer “briefers.” The trick is to not let the stories stop you from enjoying your new base. It’s a fine line be-

tween being careful and being overly cautious. Looking back at my first year, I find myself telling stories to the “newbies” that arrived this summer. For I am an all-knowing Alaskan of one year now. No longer a greenhorn, but not quite a sourdough and filled with words of wisdom. I may not be able to answer the age-old question, “Are studied tires really needed if you have all-wheel drive?” But, I can tell you that Alaska gets mighty cold fast and I’ve got the story to prove it.

One winter day my family and I decided to go for a walk. Temperatures were in the single digits, the sky was clear and blue, the trail was silent except for the loud crunching of our footsteps, and I was dressed in many layers. I thought I was prepared for the cold. Wrong. Fifteen minutes into the walk my fingers started to get numb. All the wiggling in the world couldn’t bring blood back into my hands. Another fifteen minutes later, we were walking on a part of Eagle River I would affectionately call, the bog. While screaming into the wind about how I didn’t want to be walking on this, I stomped the ice just right. My right leg plunged into the icy cold water up to my knee.

Short story ... boy, was I stupid. I’d been to all the briefings, listened to all the advice, and went against my gut instincts. My nice winter walk turned into a long 30-minute jog back home. It’s amazing how fast a waterlogged pant leg can freeze. My frozen jeans squeaked like the rusted Tinman in the ‘Wizard of Oz’ — couple that with my aching numb fingers — and my emotions ran the gamut from tears to anger. How stupid could I be ... walking on overflow river water. I knew better. At least that was

what I was telling myself as I was writhing on the couch in pain. Defrosting hands and feet can cause the mightiest to crumble.

Moral of the story, you ask? Well, besides the one about walking on ice, the only thing I can think of, and its so cliché, is to think and be prepared. I mean, we all know you can’t survive anything without duct tape, a zillion gallons of water, batteries, and canned goods. But, in Alaska, the phrase “being prepared” takes on a higher level of meaning. This state isn’t called “the Last Frontier” for nothing. Moose give birth in parking lots, bears climb trees in downtown Anchorage, and 15 minutes in either direction can put you in the middle of nowhere, with no cell phone reception and mother nature ready to take you on.

Just remember these words of advice: don’t walk on ice. Sweating in cotton while outside is bad. Don’t hike alone. Tell people where you’re going. You can’t stop nose-hair from freezing. Moose are huge. And ... have a deep respect for Alaska weather ... year round. As I tell my 14-year old son who doesn’t want to bundle up when we go for a car ride because he won’t look cool:

“OK, don’t wear it. Just bring the jacket, hat and gloves along. You never know when a moose is going to dash into your path, causing you to swerve into a snow berm; where you will have to survive on one piece of chocolate, illuminated by the warmth of a lone candle, before shoveling your way out and being forced to walk 10 miles to the nearest phone, in a uphill blizzard.”

I know, I know ... a little over the top. But, it could happen just backing out of your driveway.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS LAURA TURNER

Going from birds to stars

Eden Tinsley frocks her dad, Brig. Gen. Tom Tinsley, at the Susitna Club while his wife, Joanna, watches. General Tinsley, Commander of the 3rd Wing, was promoted to brigadier general during a ceremony Sept. 21.

Action Line

Watching acceptable programs in public places

Q: I am just wondering if you can tell me if there is some kind of policy regarding what channels the televisions can be on in very public areas such as the Arctic Oasis, Anthony’s Pizza and the Family Support Center?

A: There is no Air Force policy or

instruction that prescribes the audio or video content acceptable for public viewing in on-base facilities. While I understand your concerns, I do not feel that such a policy is warranted. There is obviously a broad range of likes and dislikes within any population. However, I would hope and expect members of our community to recognize these differences and respect the sensitivities of others.

Thank you for your comments.



Brig. Gen. Tom Tinsley
3rd Wing commander

Do you have a problem you can’t seem to get solved? Would you like to recognize someone for a job well done?

The commander’s action line is your avenue to communicate your questions, comments and concerns directly to the commander, Col. Tom Tinsley. Your calls will get the commander’s personal attention and be answered in a timely manner.

If you have a question, call or e-mail the action line at:

552-2224
actionline@elmendorf.af.mil

The following commanders stand ready to help you and can answer the majority of your questions. If they can’t help, then please call the Action Line.

Key phone numbers:
Lt. Col. James Hodges, 3rd CES/CC 552-3007
Lt. Col. Michael Borgert, 3rd SVS/CC 552-2468
Lt. Col. Paul Story, 3rd SFS/CC 552-4304

Sourdough Sentinel

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The deadline for article submissions to the *Sourdough Sentinel* is 4 p.m. Friday. Articles will be published on a space-available basis and are subject to editing by the *Sourdough Sentinel* staff. Submission does not guarantee publication.

For more information, call the *Sourdough Sentinel* office at 552-2493 or 552-4659, e-mail: sourdough.sentinel@elmendorf.af.mil, fax us at 552-5111, or write to us at:

3rd WG/PA, 10480 22nd St. Ste. 119
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

‘Elmendorf tower, Yukla 27 Heavy has an emergency’

Commentary by Staff Sgt. J.D. Erhard
3rd Wing Public Affairs

It has been 12 years since that fateful day when an Air Force AWACS, call sign Yukla 27 crashed shortly after takeoff. Twelve years of grieving, mourning and remembering our fallen brethren. September 22, 1995, started out as any other day might and ended in our worst nightmare.

Yukla 27 was airborne at 0745:29 on the morning of Sept. 22, 1995. Just a short while later at 0746:43 the copilot declared an emergency to the control tower. At 0747:11 Yukla 27 crashed just a short distance away from where it began its mission. Yukla 27 was airborne for only 40 seconds before the flight ended in tragedy. Twenty four U.S. and Canadian Airmen lost their lives, giving the ultimate sacrifice to their countries.

Accident investigators officially confirmed everyone’s initial suspicion. The crash was unequivocally due to bird strikes. Yukla 27’s number 2 engine lost all power and the number 1 engine was severely damaged as the Canada Geese destroyed the fan blades in both engines. Due to the significant loss of power in this critical phase of flight the flight deck diligently tried to make an emergency landing. After a slow left turning climb the aircraft pitched earthbound uncontrollably.

The National Transportation and Safety Bureau have found human error to be the proximate cause in over 90 percent of all aircraft mishaps. Human error played no part in this fatal accident. Our Airmen were doing everything correctly the way they were trained.

I would be remiss if I didn’t include some of the additional preventive steps that this base has relentlessly pursued to try and alleviate any possibility of bird strikes immediately following the Yukla tragedy.

According to leading experts the Bird Abatement Strike Hazard (BASH) program on Elmendorf revolutionized BASH programs not only here at Elmendorf but around the world. A mixture of patrolling, pyrotechnics,

and scarecrow coyotes has been used in the past to deter Canada Geese from landing in and around Elmendorf. Pair these active deterrents with passive deterrents such as planting specific grasses and trees in certain areas and Mother Nature is working side by side with us in the BASH program.

The Anchorage area Canada goose population is increasing each year exponentially. Elmendorf’s BASH initiatives have been so effective that Canada geese hardly give Elmendorf a second thought when they look for a place to land.

It is paramount that everyone remains vigilant regarding the BASH program and its 2,400 acre bird exclusion zone. If you see bird activity report it at 552-BIRD.

To the 24 crewmembers aboard Yukla 27, we will keep you in our prayers and memories. Your service and sacrifice will never be forgotten and is greatly appreciated.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS TINESE TREADWELL

Crew

- 1st Lt. Carlos A. Arriaga**
Weapons Director
- Tech. Sgt. Mark A. Bramer**
Flight Engineer
- Staff Sgt. Scott A. Bresson**
Airborne Radar Technician
- Tech. Sgt. Mark A. Collins**
Communications Systems Operator
- Senior Airman Lawrence E. DeFrancesco**
Communications Systems Operator
- Tech. Sgt. Bart L. Holmes Sr.**
Flight Engineer
- Lt. Col. Richard G. Leary**
Navigator
- Master Cpl. Joseph J.P. Legault**
Canadian Forces, Communications Technician
- Capt. Robert J. Long**
Senior Weapons Director
- Master Sgt. Stephen C. O’Connell**
Advanced Airborne Surveillance Technician
- Capt. Bradley W. Paakola**
Co-pilot
- Tech. Sgt. Ernest R. Parrish**
Area Specialist
- Sgt. David L. Pitcher**
Canadian Forces, Battle Director Technician
- Capt. Glenn “Skip” Rogers Jr.**
Aircraft commander
- Airman Jeshua C. Smith**
Airborne Surveillance Technician
- Staff Sgt. Raymond O. Spencer Jr.**
Airborne Surveillance Technician
- Maj. Richard P. Stewart II**
Mission Crew commander
- Tech. Sgt. Charles D. Sweet Jr.**
Airborne Radar Technician
- Maj. Marlon R. Thomas**
Mission Crew commander
- Tech. Sgt. Timothy B. Thomas**
Computer Display Maintenance Technician
- Maj. Steven A. Tuttle**
Airborne Surveillance Officer
- Tech. Sgt. Brian K. Van Leer**
Advanced Airborne Surveillance Technician
- Airman Darien F. Watson**
Airborne Surveillance Technician
- Senior Airman Joshua N. Weter**
Computer Display Maintenance Technician

Local TACP member deploys, scout platoon ambushed in Baghdad

Army 1st Lt. Hayden D. Scardina
1st Squadron, 40th Cavalry Regiment
(Airborne)

Hawr Rajab, Iraq – A scout platoon was ambushed late at night July 7, during a reconnaissance mission in southern Baghdad. The scout platoon from the 1st Squadron, 40th Cavalry Regiment (Airborne) conducted a dismounted patrol along a highway leading from the southern Baghdad community of Hawr Rajab into central Baghdad.

The scout platoon, led by Army Sgt. 1st Class Ronnie Robertson, an Ashton, W.Va. native, methodically moved north along the highway. The patrol moved north until it was within 75 meters of a housing complex similar to the famous Brownstones in Brooklyn, N.Y., when two gunmen on the southeast corner of the complex engaged the patrol with AK-47 assault rifles. Sergeant Robertson began to lead his Paratroopers toward the two insurgents when gunfire erupted from the entire southern row of homes at the housing complex.

The insurgents intensified their attack on the scouts by opening fire with two heavy 12.5 millimeter machine guns. The intensity of the machine

gun fire forced Sergeant Robertson to direct his platoon south 100 meters away from the housing complex to the safety of a dirt berm.

The berm provided the platoon with ample protection from enemy fire and allowed the platoon to return fire on the enemy. While Sergeant Robertson’s platoon was pinned down in Hawr Rajab, Maj. John Hixson, the 1-40 CAV Operations Officer, was attentively listening to Sergeant Robertson’s reports on the radio in the 1-40 CAV Tactical Operations Center.

Major Hixson immediately requested an unmanned aerial vehicle to pin-point the insurgents’ exact locations. With the UAV, Major Hixson observed insurgents moving openly in the streets on the northern side of the houses, safely out-of-view from the patrol.

The insurgents positioned themselves on roof tops and the southeast and southwest corners of the row of houses and an adjacent berm. The insurgents placed two more 12.5 millimeter heavy machine guns in fighting positions on the berm while insurgent riflemen rotated from firing at the patrol from their dug in fighting positions and going into the homes to reload.

Unlike the insurgents’ berm connected to the housing complex that allowed the insurgents freedom of movement to reload, Sergeant Robertson’s berm only offered him protection and no ability to escape to his vehicles a kilometer away.

Sergeant Robertson said, “I was worried about my boys, and I was trying to find a way to get back to my vehicles where I had plenty of ammo and my .50 caliber machine guns.”

When Sergeant Robertson thought the situation could not become worse, the enemy began to engage the scout platoon from the east. The scout platoon was becoming dangerously low on ammunition and the enemy was beginning to flank the platoon from the east and negate the safety of the berm.

Inside the 1-40 CAV TOC, Major Hixson began weighing his options to engage the enemy he was observing on the UAV video. Artillery is the easiest and quickest instrument the Army can employ to deliver a massive amount of firepower on the enemy, but it is an indiscriminate killer. “I wanted to break the back of the enemy, but I was not prepared to kill hundreds of innocent people in their homes in the process,”

said Major Hixson.

With the Army’s huge 155 millimeter howitzers set on the target and prepared to fire a dozen rounds into the southern portion of the housing complex, Staff Sgt. Stacey Davis said, “Sir, I think I found another way!” Sergeant Davis, a native of Crane, Texas, is the 1-40 CAV Joint Terminal Attack Controller and controls all fixed wing air support for the 1-40 Cavalry Squadron, including bombers and fighter jets. Sergeant Davis reported to Major Hixson that two Navy F-18 Hornets call signs “Black Knight 55” and “Black Knight 56” are in the air and they are armed with 500 lbs bombs.

Major Hixson asked Sergeant Davis what the casualty estimate for a 500 pounds bomb strike would look like and Sergeant Davis ensured Major Hixson that he could position the bombs in the right place to prevent any structural damage to the buildings in the housing complex.

Within moments, Black Knight 55 dropped a 500 lbs global positioning system guided bomb in a courtyard behind the insurgent’s heavy machine gun position.

The plasma television screen in the

Snow procedures for winter season

Termination dust in the Chugach Range ...
The end of salmon runs on the Kenai and the start of the moose rut ...
These events mean different things to different people, but for the 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron these events signal the start of the snow removal season and the reactivation of the “Snow Team.” The Snow Team’s mission is to keep installation runways, airdrome, roads and parking areas clear and safe, enabling Elmendorf’s personnel to continue with the mission.
We all share the responsibility of ensuring a safe snow removal season, as well as expediting snow removal to return the base to normal operations as quickly as possible.

- Pick up or remove items/debris around base facilities and housing units that will impede or damage snow removal equipment
- Purchase/use only authorized snow/ice melt chemicals at airfield facilities
- Self help snow removal: Stop by the snow barn (B/9361) and get some expert advice on the do’s and don’ts of snow removal
- Facility Managers should develop plans for vehicle movement prior to arranging/requesting snow removal
- Facility Managers contact Snow Control to learn where to plow/remove snow from their respective areas
- Facility Managers post parking lots as closed upon requesting snow removal
- Personnel going TDY should make arrangements to have their vehicles moved as need-

Important numbers for winter season
Housing snow removal:
Aurora Military Housing at 753-1023/1024/1091
Base roads/facilities/parking lots:
Snow Barn dispatch at 552-2994/2995
Airfield snow removal:
Base Operations at 552-2107
Straight Talk Line: Current road conditions
3rd Wing Public Affairs at 552-0101

ed throughout the winter months

- Operators are under strict instructions to immediately stop operations when children are seen near snow removal locations. Instruct children on the dangers associated with snow operations:
- Operators have narrowed fields of vision
- Operators have extremely limited hearing over the equipment noise
- Snow tunnels and forts can be unstable and collapse without warning
- Playing near icy roads or snow removal vehicles is a recipe for disaster
- Maintain a 75-foot clearance from all snow removal equipment
- Yield right-of-way to snow removal equipment

- Slow down – speed limits are reduced during snow and icing conditions

Wing O-PLAN 32-1002, located on Topcover, contains priority listings and general guidance during snow operations.

The Snow Team will begin 24/7 shift operations Oct. 7 and will be using all available resources to keep Team Elmendorf running throughout the winter. They have a priority schedule and will get to problem areas as soon as possible.

The Snow Team would also like to thank the 3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron for their yeomen’s efforts in preparation for this season.

Their summer rebuild program ensures the snow team is ready before the first flake falls; their support throughout the season ensures the Snow Team’s equipment stays on the flightline and base thoroughfares, keeping the mission on track.



ATSO TIP of the WEEK

Airman’s Manual Familiarization

The Operational Readiness Inspection is scheduled for October 2008

The Airman’s Manual is a beneficial resource for use in contingency and exercise environments. You can find information on the following categories:

- Pre-Deployment Concerns, Rules of Engagement;
- Alarm Signals and Mission Oriented Protective Postures Levels;
- Post-Attack Reconnaissance;
- Improvised Explosive Devices, Unexploded Ordnance Marking and Reporting;
- Self-Aid and Buddy Care;
- Weapons Safety and Troubleshooting;
- Field Sanitation and Hygiene;



- Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection; and
- Geneva Convention and Code of Conduct.

Area Defense Counsel represents Airmen

By Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp
3rd Wing Public Affairs

The Area Defense Counsel staff here is ready to represent any Airman who requires legal defense services.

The ADC staff, Capt. Brandon Jaroch and Staff Sgt. Deena Moore, will take on a case and defend it to the fullest extent of the law. The services they provide are free of charge to all Elmendorf Airmen.

“We protect individual rights by ensuring the independent and aggressive legal representation of Air Force members who are facing a court-martial or any adverse administrative actions,” said Captain Jaroch, who stepped into the ADC role in June.

The captain advises and represents a broad range of clients who are undergoing Article 15 actions, courts-martial or administrative discharge boards. He will argue the case in front of a military judge and jury if necessary.

“We can be compared to

“We would rather Airmen call and ask questions, than just assuming they won’t get into trouble.”

— Capt. Brandon Jaroch
Area Defense Counsel

public defenders, but with military tenacity,” he said. “Sometimes, we are simply the conduit that speaks to the commanders on behalf of our clients. If someone’s read their Article 31 (similar to Miranda) rights but rightfully requests a lawyer, we get their side of the story to the commander.”

As the defense paralegal, Sergeant Moore is responsible for researching a case, counseling clients, handling routine legal actions and managing the entire office.

The ADC office is independent from all other base agencies and reports to the Air Force Legal Operations Agency.

“Our office doesn’t report to the base legal office, the wing, 11th AF or anyone in PACAF,” Sergeant Moore said.

The ADC office is the one place in the Air Force where a service member can talk with an attorney with complete confidentiality, unlike the 3rd Wing Legal Office. The wing legal office staff works for the wing leadership and will initiate adverse actions

against a member on behalf of the commander. However, the ADC staff does maintain a working, professional relationship with the legal office.

“The legal office is very

good when it comes to prosecuting cases and we are very good when it comes to defending our clients,” said Captain Jaroch. “We focus solely on getting the best result for our clients.”

The ADC staff here said they see many Airmen who have been involved in some sort of alcohol drinking-related misconduct. Those cases make up the majority of the daily business.

“I cannot stress enough to the young folks out there to not drink and drive, to not drink underage and to not drink in the dorms. It just doesn’t turn out well for them,” Captain Jaroch said.

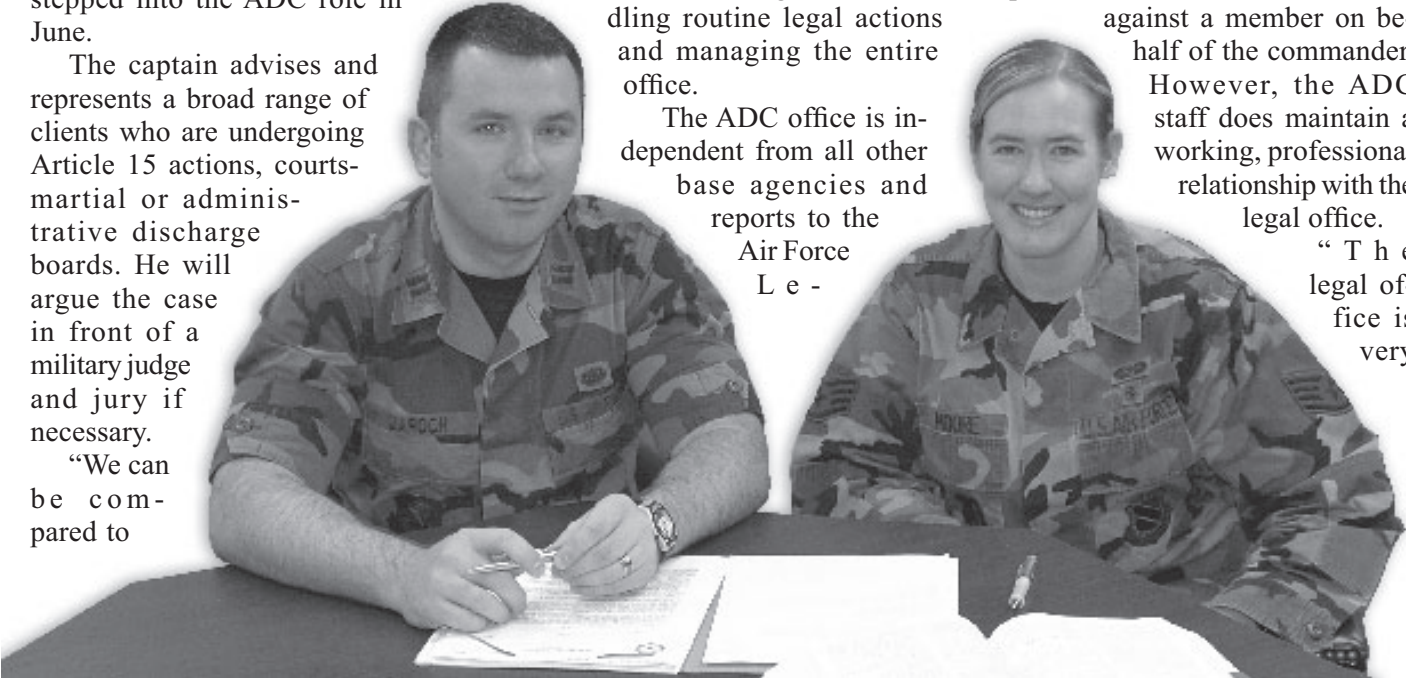
The ADC staff wants to help educate Airmen about ways to avoid trouble in addition to defending them.

“Our goal is to get out there and do as much preventative law as possible,” Captain Jaroch said. “A lot of times our job is a reactive one. We would rather Airmen call and ask questions, than just assuming they won’t get into trouble.”

Airmen who seek the services of the ADC can make an appointment by calling 552-3887. The ADC is located at 10480 22nd Street, Suite 330.

Capt. Brandon Jaroch (pronounced “Yaro”) and Staff Sgt. Deena Moore are the Area Defense Council at Elmendorf.

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. FRANCESCA POPP





Basketball coaches needed

The Youth Center is seeking volunteer coaches.

The Elmendorf Youth Center will be conducting Youth Basketball certification training classes at the Youth Center. All new coaches are required to attend one of the classes to become certified.

For more information, call the Youth Center at 552-2266.

Elmendorf national observance committee

The Elmendorf national observance committee is seeking volunteers for the Hispanic Heritage Month through Oct. 15. Volunteers do not need to be of Hispanic descent.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Michael Hall at 552-7086 or e-mail *michael.hall@elmendorf.af.mil*.

Youth archery

A youth archery league will be ongoing through Oct. 27 at the Black Sheep Bowman Archery Club. Shoots are at 10 a.m. Saturdays. No equipment is needed. Limited space is available. The last day to register is Saturday.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Bernard Punzalan at 552-9387.

611th ACOMS stand up

The 611th Air Communications Flight will combine with the 611th Air Support Squadron, Communica-

tions-Electronics Flight to form the 611th Air Communications Squadron in an official ceremony at 3 p.m. today at the Susitna Club. All base personnel are invited to attend.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Devlin Huffman at 552-3714.

Shoe wear in fitness center

Patrons of the fitness center must hand carry their workout shoes into the facility. Patrons who do not hand carry their workout shoes will not be allowed into the facility.

For more information, call Tom Lawson at 552-9880 or Matt Livingston at 552-0610.

Promotion ceremony

There will be a Team Elmendorf promotion ceremony at 4 p.m. Monday at the base theater. All base personnel are invited to attend.

For more information, call your respective first sergeant.

E. coli warning

Select packages of meat have been flagged for E. coli bacteria. “Northwest Finest 7 percent, ground beef” and “Northwest Finest 10 percent, organic ground beef.” These packages were sold from Aug. 1-11.

For more information, call 907-269-8000.

SBS seminar

There is a shaken baby syndrome seminar at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the

base theater. All expectant parents or new parents are encouraged to attend.

For more information, call Jeanine Wheeler at 580-5858

Totem pole ceremony

The base totem pole, at the corner of Arctic Warrior Drive and Post Road, will be taken down during a ceremony at 11 a.m. Oct. 9.

For more information, call Jon Scudder at 552-9677.

Chapel member opening

The Elmendorf Protestant Chapel Community is accepting applications for the Early Childhood Ministry Coordinator. This person will organize and provide Christian education Tuesday mornings and evenings and Sunday mornings. Applications are being accepted through Oct. 15.

For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Earnest Beeman or Staff Sgt. Richard Watson at 552-4422.

Domestic Violence proclamation signing

Brig. Gen. Tom Tinsley, 3rd Wing commander, and Col. David Shutt, U.S. Army Garrison Alaska and Fort Richardson commander, will join Anchorage Major Mark Begich in signing a Domestic Violence Awareness proclamation at 1 p.m. Monday at the Loussac Library. The proclamation jointly encourages all civilians and military personnel to make a supportive commitment to ongoing

community efforts to increase public awareness of the consequences of domestic violence.

For more information, call Pauline Richard at 580-1040.

477th FG activation

The Air Force Reserve Command’s 477th Fighter Group will have an official activation ceremony at 3 p.m. Tuesday in Hangar 20. Lt. Gen. John Bradley, Air Force Reserve Command commander, will be the presiding official for the ceremony. Colonel Eric Overturf will take command of the 477th Fighter Group. The 477th FG is the first Reserve F-22 unit to be created.

For more information, call Lynda Davis at 551-4771.

ESPEAK meeting

The Enlisted Spouses of Elmendorf Alaska will have an open house from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Chapel One Annex. There will be food, games and prizes. The open house is for all enlisted spouses of all military branches. Child care is provided.

For more information, call Sonia Vance at 726-1199.

Finance change hours

The Finance office is now open from 7:30 p.m.-3 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Appointments can be made for Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 552-9104 or e-mail 3cptsfso@elmendorf.af.mil.

Spouses celebration

The 2007 Military Spouse Autumn Celebration is from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Lee Reserve Center on Fort Richardson. All military spouses are invited. Children’s activities will be available.

For more information, call Marv Jackson at 552-8068.

School supplies needed

The Chapel staff is collecting school supplies for 400 children in Afghanistan. Supplies can be dropped off at the Chapel Center, 10427 Kuter Ave., weekdays or at either chapel on Sundays through Oct. 14.

The supplies will be sent to Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Daniel Nigolian, 3rd Wing chaplain, who is deployed to Afghanistan. He will pass out the supplies to a refugee camp northwest of Kabul.

For more information, call the chapel at 552-4422.

Aurora changes hours

The Aurora Housing Office and U-Fix-It store have changed their hours. The Aurora office hours are 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays-Fridays and 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays. The U-Fix-It store is open 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays-Fridays and 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays

For more information, call 753-1051.

STAP applications

Applications for Spouse Tuition Assistance Program funding for the school term beginning October-December are being accepted 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday-Oct. 31 at the Education Office, 4109 Bullard Ave, Suite 232. Hand-written applications will not be accepted. Do not use your saved application because the application may have changed since you last applied for STAP funding. STAP instructions/information can be found on the Topcover under “Education.”

For more information, call Max McQueen at 552-3494 or max.mcqueen@elmendorf.af.mil.

Arctic Bazaar

The 22nd Annual Arctic Bazaar of the Elmendorf Officers’ Spouses’ Organization, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Oct. 13 at Hangar 5 will feature more than 200 crafts and food booths. This event is open to base personnel and surrounding areas.

For more information, call Beth Osborne at 622-0175 or visit www.elmendorfoso.com/arcticbazaar/htm.

Automated Housing Referral Network

The Automated Housing Referral Network program is an online, joint service that provides housing information for servicemembers. This website gives a brief description of availability of rentals and

homes for sale.

For more information, visit www.ahrn.com or call the housing office at 552-4439.

Hometown news

Arctic Warriors can now submit a DD Form 2266 online at <http://hnforms.afnews.af.mil:8080/lfservlet/3WGELMENDORFAFB> for Hometown News release. This form will provide news about promotion, earned an award, PCSing or retiring and more.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Francesca Popp at 552-8014 or Airman 1st Class David Carbajal at 552-2493.

Free renters insurance

Free renters insurance is being offered to all occupants of Aurora housing. To activate renters’ insurance from Allstate, call 279-9000.

For more information, call Aurora at 753-1023.

Bargain shop winter hours

The Bargain Shop is now open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Consignments are accepted from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays. Volunteers are needed Mondays and Fridays.

For more information, call 753-6134.



PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN DE-JUAN HALEY

Arctic Warrior of the Week

Staff Sgt. Joseph Cooper

Organization and duty title: 176th Air Control Squadron Senior Director Technician

Hometown: Winston-Salem, N.C.

Hobbies: Snow machining and Carolina Panthers football

Mission contribution: By executing the 176th ACS active air defense mission for North American Aerospace Defense Command while proving command and control for the Pacific Air Forces, Alaska Command and the 3rd Wing.

Best part of your job: Being able to go home and know that I play a vital role in Homeland Defense, while knowing that without my unit our nation wouldn't be as safe as it is today.

How long have you been at Elmendorf: Four years

Time in service: Four years

Best part about being in Alaska: Enjoying some of the greatest hunting and fishing opportunities available in the U.S.

Best Air Force memory: October 2004, the 176th ACS Dining Out. That was the official day that our unit became a full-time Air National Guard unit.

Quote from supervisor: "Staff Sergeant Cooper is a take-charge NCO, always involved in training and putting others ahead of himself. If you need something done in our squadron, he is already working on it, or has a plan to make it happen." Tech. Sgt. Keith Greenhalgh

CAV, continued from page 3

TOC went white from the flash of light created by the bomb. When the UAV video feed refocused, the insurgents behind the machine guns were hunched over their weapons and the riflemen that had been engaging the scout platoon lay still in the courtyard.

Within seconds more insurgents not realizing what had happened, re-occupied the courtyard and the berm just in time to be hit by the second 500 lbs bomb from Black Knight 56.

Back at the berm, Sergeant Robertson was cringing from the concussion of the two bombs dropped within 250 meters of his position. Major Hixson coordinated for Black Knight 55 and Black Knight 56 to drop two more bombs in the courtyard to prevent the enemy from reoccupying their firing positions while Sergeant Robertson and his platoon, which was dangerously low on ammunition, moved across open ground.

In addition to the Black Knights, Major Hixson also coordinated with a mortar platoon under the leadership of Sgt. 1st Class Scott Mathis from the 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash. Mathis' mortars were tasked with engaging the insurgents shooting at Sergeant Robertson's platoon from the east. The insurgents in the east, unaffected by the two 500 pound bombs, posed the

greatest threat to the scout platoon's movement.

In an expertly coordinated demonstration of U.S. firepower, Mathis' mortars delivered six rounds of 120 millimeter high explosive mortars while Black Knight 55 and 56 dropped two more 500 pound bombs.

As the bombs and mortars struck the insurgent positions simultaneously, Sergeant Robertson safely led his scouts back to his vehicles without any harassment from the enemy. The entire event occurred in less than an hour. The amazing part of the event is the ability of the U.S. military to quickly coordinate attacks between the Army, Air Force and Navy to deliver precision munitions to the battlefield that maximize the effects on the enemy while minimizing the damage inflicted on civilians.

In this event, the only structural damage inflicted during the attack was to a stone wall that encircled the courtyard the insurgents used to access the southwestern berm where they had emplaced the heavy machine guns. The accurate fires delivered by Black Knight 55 and 56 and the mortar platoon allowed Sergeant Robertson's platoon to escape a numerically superior enemy without suffering a single casualty. The ability to coordinate between Army units and among the services will continue to allow Task Force Marine platoons to engage and defeat the enemy on the battlefield.

AF Ball celebrates 60 years of heritage



Brig. Gen. Tom Tinsley, 3rd Wing commander, speaks during the 2007 Air Force Ball at the Egan Center in Anchorage Saturday. The ice sculpture is a replica of the Air Force Memorial and was made for the 60th anniversary AF Ball.



Left: Chief Master Sgt. Robert Moore, 11th Air Force command chief, displays a uniform dating back to the Korean War Era. Chief Moore is walking with 1st Lieutenants Brittany Lussi (Left) and Susan Morris (right), both from the 3rd Medical Operations Squadron.



Right: Maj. Bryan Pavlich, 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron commander, shows off one of many historic Air Force uniforms during the ball.



Several Air Force uniforms hang during the ball set to display 60 years of heritage. Tech. Sgt. Jack Waid, 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, holds more than 30 uniforms dating back to World War I. His collection was used at the dedication of the Air Force memorial in Washington D.C.

'Their Sacrifice, Our Freedom'

Ceremony honors POW/MIA



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MATT OWENS

Above: Members of all services were on hand to pay their respect to the fallen service members.

Right: Navy Cmdr. Steven Pearson and Petty Officer 2nd Class Lindsey McShirley render a salute after laying a wreath in honor of members during the POW/MIA Ceremony Sept. 21. A wreath for each branch of military was presented by a member of the respective service.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS TINESE TREADWELL



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MATT OWENS

Members of the motorcycle club take the flags from the flag bearer of the base honor guard. The flag exchange is a symbol of respect for those prisoners of war/missing in action.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS TINESE TREADWELL

The Vietnam Veterans Motorcycle Club stand at attention for the playing of TAPS during the ceremony.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS TINESE TREADWELL

Fog, a member of the Vietnam Veterans Motorcycle Club, places the boots on the POW/MIA memorial during the ceremony. The memorial consists of a rifle, a helmet, a pair of boots and dog tags, and one red rose.



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS LAURA TURNER

Staff Sgt. Robert Phillips, 3rd Communications Squadron, is welcomed by his 3-year-old son, Gavin, shortly after arriving Tuesday. Returning deployers were met by family, friends and colleagues at the Joint Military Complex.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. KEITH BROWN

Senior Master Sgt. William Easter shakes hands with Capt. Melanie Mankins, both from the 3rd Services Squadron, shortly after arriving at the Joint Military Complex Tuesday. Several members of the 3rd SVS were on hand to greet returning members of their squadron.



PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. KEITH BROWN

Arctic Warriors

welcomed by family, friends



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS LAURA TURNER

Above: Senior Airman Adam Whitman, 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron, hugs his wife during the AEF arrival. Whitman and the other returnees were assigned to AEFs 7 and 8.

Left: Senior Airman Juliana Smith, 3rd Communications Squadron, is welcomed by Chief Master Sgt. Carl Bullock, 3rd Mission Support Group command chief, coming off the plane Tuesday. More than 40 Arctic Warriors returned to Elmendorf on this flight. The next inbound AEF flight is scheduled to arrive next week.

Lest We Forget

By Capt. Tony Wickman
71st Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Across

1. Dollop
4. Fall mon.
7. Crazy
10. Nigerian money
12. Iranian king; sovereign
13. We ___ Marshall
14. USAF 1Lt Robert J. ___; Southeast Asia MIA 1968/02/05
15. Protagonist
16. Dog star ___ Tin Tin
17. Virtue of which all things happen or exist, Eastern religion
18. System of writing or printing for use by the blind
20. ___ Diego
21. Proper address for a male officer
22. Police code issued to find someone or something, in brief
23. Mil. pay entitlement
25. Pub order
26. Ravenous monster having a lady's head and a bird's body
28. Large African antelope
31. The "I" or self of any person
32. An excuse; pretext
33. Body part of a mammal between the

A	F	R	C		S	A	G	A		A	L	U	M
O	B	O	E		A	T	L	A	S		M	A	S
K	I	N	D		F	R	E	S	H		C	Y	A
				I	S	S	U	E				E	F
D	A	M		U	P	C			A	D	O	R	E
U	F	O		M	C	K	I	N	L	E	Y		
E	S	T					M	O	S	E	L	E	
T	O	T		C	A	M	P	H	O	R		A	E
	C	O	T	E	R	I	E					G	M
				M	C	M	X	L	V	I		L	E
F	R	A	C	A	S		I	S	R		E	N	S
R	I	D					G	A	L	E	S		
A	F	M	C		W	Y	N	N	E		A	E	T
I	L	I	A		H	E	A	D	S		A	R	E
L	E	T	T		Y	A	W	S			B	E	E

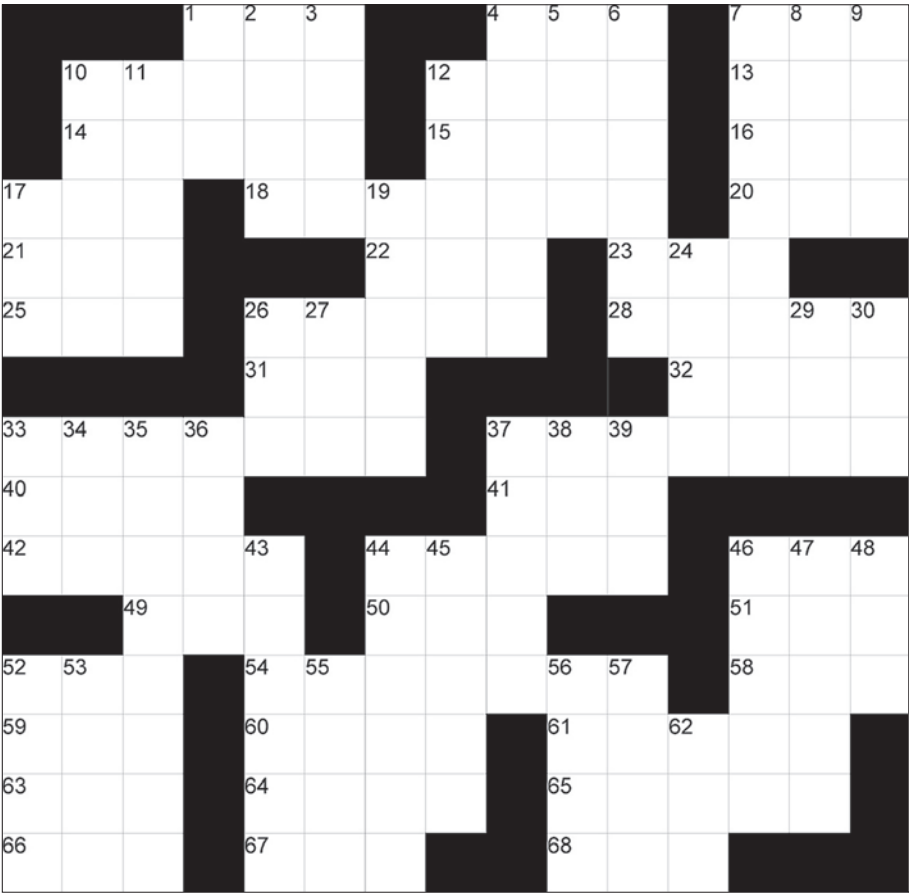
Sept. 21 solution

thorax and the pelvis

37. USAF Capt. Thomas T. ____; South-east Asia MIA 1968/03/17
40. USAF SSgt. Elbert J. ____ Jr.; Korean War MIA 1952/06/10
41. Macao monetary unit
42. Lake transport
44. ____ Doubleday; Union general and baseball creator
46. Winter sport
49. Sphere
50. Keanu's role in The Matrix
51. ____ jiffy; do something or get somewhere quickly
52. ____ Vegas
54. USAF Capt. Eugene M. ____; Cold War MIA 1952/10/7
58. Slim ____ snack
59. Home turf?
60. Fishing equipment
61. Middle Eastern dish consisting of sautéed, seasoned rice
63. 19th letter of the Greek alphabet
64. Metallica drummer Ulrich
65. Detached
66. USAF E-1 to E-9 evaluation form
67. 10 make a decade, in brief
68. USAF PCS entitlement

Down

1. Prod
2. Middle East denizen
3. USAF SSgt Joseph L. ____; Korean War MIA 1951/06/07
4. Automotive industry's legend Carroll
5. Actor James ____ Jones
6. Saturn moon
7. USAF Capt. Richard C. ____; Southeast Asia MIA/KIA 1965/09/05
8. Opera highlight
9. A1C Willard M. ____; Korean War MIA 1952/02/28
10. USAF A2C Frank E. ____; Cold War MIA 1952/10/7
11. Love



12. A1C Thomas G. ____; Cold War MIA 1952/10/7
17. Fed. agency that safeguards US transportation systems
19. USAF Capt. George ____; Korean War MIA 1951/04/12; repat. 1993/12/08
24. European mounts
26. Fringe
27. Iron or Bronze
29. Formerly
30. Vietnam War POW USAF Col. George ____; Medal of Honor
33. Circle part
34. Actress Arthur
35. Extinct carnivorous or herbivorous reptile
36. Scent
37. ____ Hilton
38. Night prior to
39. Neither's partner
43. Gulf War POW USAF Col. David W. ____
44. Outrages
45. With ____ on; eagerly; ready to enjoy oneself
46. Vietnam War POW/KIA USAF Capt. Lance ____; Medal of Honor recipient
47. Cutting instrument
48. ____ Sam; 2001 Penn film
52. Stringed musical instrument
53. Quickly for the military
55. Close
56. Quarrel
57. USAF 1Lt Gordon C. ____; Southeast Asia MIA 1970/06/30
62. Utah town SSE of Salt Lake City

SPORTS PAGE

Softball: AF claims gold in Armed Forces Championship

1st Lt. Amber Balken
75th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

For the second time in three years, the Air Force Women's Softball Team took home gold medals claiming the 2007 All-Armed Forces Women's Softball Championships at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, Sept. 18-20.

The Air Force and Army teams finished the tournament with a 7-2 record, the Navy took third with a record of 3-6 and the Marine Corps finished forth with a 1-8 record.

The Air Force began the tournament with a 28-2 win over the Navy. The Air Force started the game strong with six runs on six hits including a home run by Latricia Munday, Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal.

Leading the Air Force was Karrie Warren,



PHOTO BY ALEX LYOD

Brandi Jackson, 3rd Medical Operations Squadron, prepares to run during the All-Armed Forces Women's Softball Championships held at Hill Air Force Base Utah, Sept 18-20. Jackson was also named as one of the All-Tournament members.

Tyndall AFB, Fla., going five for five batting and driving in four runs, and Carly Edwards, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, going four for five batting and driving in one run.

The Air Force's biggest challenge of the day would come when they would face their rivals, the Army.

The game started out with the Army taking a 2-0 lead in the first inning. The Air Force answered with a pair of runs in the bottom of the second inning. For the next five innings it was a battle of the bats. Both teams were consistent in batting as well as base running.

Going into the bottom of the sixth inning the Air Force had a 9-7 lead. The Army scored once and was threatening to score again with two on base when Shannka Taylor hit a three run home run to put the Army up 11-9 going into the top of the seventh.

The Air Force once again turned to their batting. With two outs, Laurie Doughty hit a double to right field scoring two and tying the game. The Air Force used smart base running to score four more runs before going into the bottom of the seventh with a 15-11 lead.

The Air Force was undefeated after the first day with the 15-12 win over the Army.

"My heart was pounding," Doughty said. "I kept saying I can do this, I can do this. Then, I just took my pitch and drove it."

"The ladies showed great heart," said Air Force coach Cheryl Trapnell. "Everyone on the team stepped up, and never gave up, I am so proud of them."

The next time the two teams met would not be so favorable.

The Army team came out motivated and immediately took control of the game. They combined the power of their bats and their solid defense to take an early lead over the Air Force.

The Air Force threatened to make a come back in the bottom of the second inning with the bases loaded when the Army turned a routine ground ball into a triple play to close out the inning.

The Army gave the Air Force their first loss with a 13-5 victory.

The second game of the afternoon was between the Navy and the Marines and proved to be a battle of the bats.

The Marines came out firing in the second inning with 13 hits and aggressive base running.

Heather Nolan, Navy Information Operations Command, Lackland AFB, Texas, tried to get the Navy going with a three-run triple in the bottom of the third inning, but the solid defense of the Marine Corps stopped any hopes of a comeback.

The other teams tend to look past the Marine Corps because of low numbers, commented Marine Head Coach Randy Husted. "The team worked hard and it paid off. They did a great job."

After the disappointing loss to the Marines, the Navy was determined to step up against the Air Force. Down 11-4 going into the top of the sixth inning, the Navy batted through their line up and scored 11 runs on 12 Air Force errors.

The Air Force threatened to make a comeback scoring 3 runs in the bottom of the sixth inning, but Navy hitting and rock solid defense was too much, and the Navy handed the Air Force their second loss of the day, 17-14.

"This was a huge win for the girls, a huge win for the program," said Navy Coach Kirk Myers, USS Makin Island. "A lot of people came through and made big plays. Our bench was crucial in this game."

The third day was make or break for the Air Force as they faced the Army in the first game. The Air Force would need to win all three games to clinch the title.

The Air Force set the tone for the entire game with a string of three triples and home run by Sarah Ryan, Nellis AFB, Nev.

The Air Force used basic fundamental softball to hand the Army a 13-0 loss, the first shut out of the tourney.

"The team regrouped and we came out determined and with intensity," said Ryan. "We weren't going to give up and we showed that."

The Air Force clinched their second gold medal in three years with two wins over the Marines and the Navy.

"The ladies came out today with the intensity and hunger they had the first day," said Air Force Assistant Coach Rob Hoffman, Hurlburt Field, Fla. "The entire team played well, they communicated and played fundamentally sound softball."

By the end of the tournament, 12 players were picked as the all-tournament team and 15 ladies were chosen to represent the Armed Forces at the Amateur Softball Association's women's championship in Oklahoma City.

Arctic War Runners finished second in road relay

The Arctic War Runners placed second out of sixteen teams in the Klondike Trail of '98 International Road Relay corporate division held on Sept. 7-8. Approximately 1,300 participants competed in the 25th annual event that began in the evening of Sept. 7 in Skagway and ended the afternoon of the day after in Whitehorse, Canada.

"This is more an event than a race for runners on the team. We enjoy the scenic drive, running all through the night and the camaraderie along the way," said Greg Endsley, team captain. Overall, the Arctic War Runners completed the race in 15 hours 26 minutes 20 seconds and finished 16th out of 116 teams from Anchorage, Juneau, Whitehorse, Skagway, and surrounding areas.

The team consisted of current and former active duty members, civilians, and spouses at Fort Richardson, Fort Wainwright, the Veterans Affairs Hospital, and Elmendorf. Several team members who were previously assigned in Alaska traveled to Skagway to compete in the event.

Three soldiers from the 1-25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team at Fort Wainwright, joined the team this year

and all set personal distance records while still placing in the top 25 percent for their legs. Endsley commented, "I always recruit soldiers for the team, but having these three young Privates on our team added a dimension that we have not previously experienced. We really enjoyed having them on the team and we are all proud of their performance."

Two other soldiers, CPTs Mike and Jean Hiller, traveled to Alaska for a vacation and to participate in the relay. After running in the relay for the first time last year, they couldn't wait to get back to Alaska and make the trip to Skagway again. Mike really pushed this year and placed second for his leg out of the 116 teams.

Capt. Roger Lee, McConnell AFB, also traveled to Skagway to compete and placed fourth in his leg of the race. Captain Lee has run on the Arctic War Runners' team for three years and has performed exceptionally well, placing in the top 5 of his relay legs.

(Information provided by Priscilla Barnes, 3rd Aerospace Medicine Squadron)



COURTESY PHOTO

Capt. Roger Lee, McConnell AFB, Kan., finishes leg 9 with a baton pass to Priscilla Barnes, 3rd Aerospace Medicine Squadron, to begin the 10th leg Sept. 8.